

The China Mail

Established February, 1845.

VOL. XLI No. 6919.

號十三年九月五十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1885.

日廿九八年酉

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

MR. JAMES DUKK MONRO is authorized to sign our Firm.
BRADLEY & CO.
Swatow, 22nd September, 1885. 1635

NOTICE.

WE HAVE This Day ESTABLISHED ourselves in Hongkong as MERCHANTS and COMMISSION AGENTS, under the style or Firm of ABRAHAM EZEKIEL & CO., in connection with Mr. SHROOKER ABRAHAM in Bombay.

ABRAHAM EZEKIEL & CO.
Hongkong, September 28, 1885. 1701

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

CONTRIBUTING SHAREHOLDERS are requested to send in a STATEMENT of BUSINESS contributed during the Half-Year ended 30th June, 1885, on or before the 30th SEPTEMBER next, on which date the Accounts will be Closed.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

D. GILLIES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, August 17, 1885. 1403

BRANCHES:

In India, China, Japan and the Colonies.

THE Bank receives Money on Deposit, buys and sells Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

CLAIMS ON THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION PURCHASED ON ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.

H. A. HERBERT,
Manager,

Hongkong Branch.

Hongkong, July 4, 1885. 1128

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$7,500,000
RESERVE FUND.....\$4,500,000
RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION.....\$8,500,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS.....\$7,500,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman: Hon. E. D. SANSON.
Deputy Chairman: Mr. M. G. E. MCIVER, Esq.
C. D. BOTTOMLEY, M. G. COPE, Esq.
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Mr. W. K. KEEWAN,
Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq. E. B. SASOON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong.....THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.,
Manager.

Shanghai.....EVAN CAMERON, Esq.

London BANCERS: London and County
Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:-

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

6.....4 per cent. "

12.....5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Deposits granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, August 24, 1885. 1403

NOTICE

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK

1. The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2. Sums less than \$1, or more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3. Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4. Interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.

5. Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6. Correspondence as to the business of the Bank if directed on Hongkong Savings' Bank, Hongkong, is forwarded free by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.

7. Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.

For the
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, May 7, 1885. 754

WILLIAM DOLAN,
SAIL-MAKER & SHIP-CHANDLER,
22, PRAYL CENTRAL

COTTON DUCKS, HEMP CANVAS,
MANILA ROPE, AMERICAN
OAKUM, LIFE BUOYS,
CORK JACKETS,
etc., &c., &c.

Hongkong, May 1, 1885. 742

Business Notices.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

HAVE NOW RECEIVED THEIR NEW STOCK OF -

SPORTSMEN'S SUNDRIES & AMMUNITION.
DOUBLE-BARRELED FOWLING PIECES in Cases, with IMPLEMENTS, Complete, from \$45.00.

ELEY'S Brown, Blue and Green CARTRIDGE CASES.

ELEY'S White FEET, Grey CLOTH and Grouse-proof WADES.

ELEY'S Cylindrical Wire CARTRIDGES.

Newcastle Chilled SHOT, all sizes.

PROG & WILK'S 'ALLIANCE' SPORTING POWDER.

Re-capping, Loading and Ramming MACHINES.

Combined Loading and Turnover MACHINES.

POWDER and Shot MEASURES, and FLASKS.

Exploded Shell EXTRACTORS.

Water-proof GUN CASES and BAGS.

Cartridge BELTS and BAGS.

Water-proof CANVAS and Leather LEGGINGS.

Field and Case GUN-CLEANERS, GUN OIL

ON BOTTLES, SCREW-DRIVERS, and CASE CUTTERS,

CALCUTTA - PITH SUN HATS (extra thick for Sportsmen).

English-made Hand-sewn SHOOTING BOOTS.

(PIG-NIC and SHOOTING PARTIES supplied with FRESH STORES, WINES, etc., at special rates.)

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, August 23, 1885. 1478

15 DOLLARS.

Over One Hundred Patterns to choose from.

THE success which attended our introduction of this 'SPECIALITY' last year, induced us to increase our Orders for this season, and our London Agents having secured a very large Lot of SCOTCH-TWEEDS of exceptionally good value, we now offer them to our Customers at the above quotation.

It can be readily understood that the profit on such suit, must of necessity be small, but we estimate that, from increase of business, a greater profit will ultimately accrue to us than if we charged a higher price.

The same attention will be given to the making up and fitting of these suits as would be to the most expensive material.

Robert Lang & Co.,

QUEEN'S ROAD (OPPOSITE HONGKONG HOTEL).

Hongkong, September 2, 1885. 1514

15 DOLLARS.

SCOTCH TWEED SUIT,

(COAT, VEST AND PANTS),

15 DOLLARS.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned have been nominated by Special Appointment COMMERCIAL AGENTS for the FOREIGN BUSINESS of HIS EXCELLENCY the VICEROY of CHIHIL.

RUSSELL & CO.

Hongkong, August 11, 1885. 1523

HONGKONG FIRE-INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ADJUSTMENT OF BONDS FOR THE YEAR 1884.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company are requested to furnish the Undersigned with a list of their CONTRIBUTIONS for the year ending 31st December last. In order that the DISTRIBUTION of the PROFITS reserved for Contributors may be arranged. Returns not rendered prior to the THIRTY-FIRST of October next, will be adjusted by the Company, and no Claims or Alterations will be subsequently admitted.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,

General Managers,

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, September 1, 1885. 1502

NOTICE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM ANTWERP, HAMBURG, LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Pembroke, DAVIES, Commander, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods, with the exception of Opium, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned, at Wanchai, No. 8, behind the premises known as 'Blue Building,' whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on, unless notice to the contrary be given before 10 a.m. to-morrow, the 25th instant.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining after the 1st proxime will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by ADAMSON, BELL & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, September 24, 1885. 1670

NOTICE.

FROM HAMBURG, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE S.S. Balaclava, Capt. W. Schaeffer, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned, whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 1 p.m. to-day, the 25th instant.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 1st October will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SIEMSEN & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, September 23, 1885. 1673

NOTICE.

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship Glenayr, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their Goods—with the exception of Opium—are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned, whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before noon to-day, the 28th instant.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 8th October will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, September 23, 1885. 1673

NOTICE.

FOR THE CONVENIENCE of Customers, the

PRODUCTIONs of the CHINA SUGAR

BUREAU COMPANY, LONDON, can be

obtained by applying to MR. PEYK

GASEL, at No. 3, PEYK STREET, at the same

address as the BUREAU; or to MR. BELL

FRICKEL, at No. 1, PEYK STREET, at the same

address as the BUREAU.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded in writing direct to the

RESELLER at East Point.

For Freight, apply to

RUSSELL & CO.

Hongkong, September 12, 1885. 1688

FOR Sale.

MacEwen, FRICKEL & Co.
VICTORIA EXCHANGE,
Queen's Road, CENTRAL,
ARE NOW LANDING

DEVOE'S NONPAREIL KEROSINE
OIL.

HITCHCOOK MECHANICAL
'NO CHIMNEY'
LAMP.

STUDENT'S LAMP.

FAIRBANK'S SCALES.

MACKENZIE & MACKENZIE'S
BISCUITS.

NEW SEASON'S TEA,
in 5 or 10 Catty Boxes.

YELLOW GOSEW BUTTER,
in 5 or 10 lbs Tins.

Condensed MILK.

CALIFORNIA PRODUCTS.

COOKING STOVES.

AGATE IRON WARE.

Milner's FIRE PROOF SAFES.

Do. CASH AND PAPER
BOXES.

ALLEN & GENTER'S
TOBACCO AND CIGARETTES.

BEER AND PORTER
in
Hogsheads.

THE USUAL ASSORTMENT
of

OILMAN'S STORES.

AND

WINES,

at the lowest possible prices

FOR CASH.

MacEwen, FRICKEL & Co.
Hongkong, September 2, 1885. 1619

NOW PUBLISHED.

BUDDHISM: ITS HISTORICAL,
THEORETICAL AND POPULAR
ASPECTS.

BY

ERNEST J. HETZL, PH.D., TUBINGEN.
THIRD EDITION.
REVISED, WITH ADDITIONS.

Priis. - - - \$1.50.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, August 20, 1884. 1398

FOR SALE.

COURSE, DISTANCE,
AND
AVERAGE SPEED TABLES.

London, via THE SUZ CANAL,

INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN, &c.,

WITH

VARIOUS OTHER TABLES AND NOTES,

BY

W. A. GULLAND.

To be obtained at the
'CHINA MAIL' OFFICE,
Mosses, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
FALCONER & Co.

Hongkong, September 2, 1884. 1475

NOW READY.

PRICE, \$1.00.

COMPARATIVE CHINESE FAMILY LAW

By E. H. PARKER.

Can be obtained from KELLY & WILSON
at Shanghai and Hongkong, at Lane,
Crawford & Co., Hongkong, and at the
China Mail Office.

Intimations.

GRIFFITH'S
NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG

NOW READY,

1. DUDDELL STREET.

GRIFFITH & Co.,

MANUFACTURERS

OF THE

LONDON AERATED WATERS,

1, DUDDELL STREET,

Continue to Supply.

SODA WATER, LEMONADE,
TOMATO, GINGERADE,
SODA, SODA, KERATEADE,
SARAPARADE, &c., &c.

At the same Moderate Charges.

Hongkong, June 9, 1885. 957

SAINT RAPHAEL WINE COMPANY.

A VALENCE (Drôme).

THE Undersigned have been appointed
by the SAINT RAPHAEL WINE COMPANY,
AGENTS for the SALE of their
WINE in Hongkong.

This Wine, Samples of which can be seen
on application, has a delicious flavour and is
invaluable as a tonic and restorative and
possesses real strength and body.

GUEDES & Co.

Hongkong, September 2, 1885. 1522

Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

Manager, NEIL O'BRIEN.

Return of the
FAMOUS AND POPULAR
MASCOTTE OPERA COMPANY.

TO-MORROW, 1st October,
OPENING'S DELIGHTFUL COMIC OPERA
'MADAME FAVART.'

Reappearance of

MISS EVA DAVENPORT,

MISS FLORENCE SEYMOUR,

Miss Carrie Hubert, Miss Stella,

Miss Blanch-Thompson, Miss Kate Ashton.

Mr. EDWARD FARLEY,

Mr. VERNON REED,

Mr. CHAS. TYRELL,

Mr. E. Scott, Mr. F. Beaumont,

Mr. Jules Malcolm, Mr. E. Franks,

and

MR. NEIL O'BRIEN.

Conductor, SIGNORE VALENZA.

Box Plan now open at KELLY & WALS'S
(LIMITED).

Hongkong, September 30, 1885. 1699

TO-day's Advertisements.

To-day's Advertisements.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned will be TEST of the HARDEN
'STAR' HAND GRENADE on the
PARADE GROUND TO-MORROW EVEN-
ING, at 6 p.m. (weather permitting). 1st
October. All INSURANCE Cos., STEAMBOAT
Cos., DOG Cos., MERCHANT, and all
PROPERTY OWNERS, and the Public generally
are INVITED to witness the same.

E. CLARK,
Agent.

Hongkong, September 30, 1885. 1712

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Co.'s Steamship
Ours, Commandant LEQUERRE,
will be despatched for
SHANGHAI TO-MORROW, the 1st
October, at 3 p.m.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, September 30, 1885. 1707

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Co.'s Steamship
Tunis, Commandant REYKNER,
will be despatched for
KOBÉ and YOKOHAMA TO-MORROW,
the 1st October, at 3 p.m.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, September 30, 1885. 1708

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Co.'s Steamship
Amatista, Captain HANLIN, will be
despatched for the above Port on SATUR-
DAY, the 3rd October, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR AMOY AND TAMSUI.

The Co.'s Chartered
Steamship Amatista, Captain HANLIN, will be
despatched for the above Port on SATUR-
DAY, the 3rd October, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LATRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, September 30, 1885. 1711

NOTICE.

FOR HAVRE, LONDON AND HAM-
BURG, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Steamship Altracraig,
Captain ALTRACRAIG, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on SUNDAY, the 4th October, at
Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SIEMSEN & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, September 30, 1885. 1706

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per Steamships
Matson, Thome, and Jere Bros., from
London, Antwerp, Havre and
Bordeaux, in connection with the above
Steamers, are hereby informed that their
Goods, with the exception of Opium
Treasures and Valuables—are being landed
and stored at their risk at the Company's
Godown, whence delivery may be obtained
immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on, unless
intimation is received from the Consignees
before 11 a.m. To-DAY (Wednesday), request-
ing it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after WED-
NESDAY, the 7th Oct., at Noon, will be
subject to rent, and landing charges at 1
cent per package per diem.

All Claims must be sent in to me on or
before the 26th Instant, or they will not be
recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. de CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, September 30, 1885. 1709

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1885.

Stocks. Nos. of Shares
Value. Up. down.

BANKS. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Co. 60,000 \$ 125 3 125

INSURANCES. North-China Insurance Co., Ltd. 5,000 £ 25 2 25

Union Insurance Society, Co., Ltd. 2,000 £ 125 2 125

China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd. 24,000 £ 83 3 25 6

Canton Insurance Office, Co., Ltd. 10,000 £ 250 5 105

Chinese Insurance Co., Limited. 1,500 \$ 1,000 200

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. 8,000 \$ 250 5 100

China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. 20,000 \$ 100 20 5

STEAM COMPANIES. HK. C. and M. Steamboat Co., Ltd. 8,000 \$ 100 2 10

Douglas Steamship Co., Limited. 20,000 \$ 100 2 10

Indo-China S. Co., Limited. 18,397 £ 10 2 10

China and Manilla S. Co., Ltd. 31,212 £ 10 2 10

SHANGHAI & CO. 3,600 \$ 100 all

MISCELLANEOUS. HK. C. and M. Steamboat Co., Ltd. 10,000 \$ 125 125

HK. C. and M. Steamboat Co., Ltd. 500 £ 100 2 10

New Share. 1,900 £ 10 2 10

Hongkong Hotel Company, Lt. 3,000 \$ 100 100

China Sugar Company, Limited. 1,000 \$ 100 100

Hongkong Ice Company, Limited. 1,256 £ 100 100

Luzon Sugar Company, Limited. 7,000 \$ 100 100

Perak Tin Mining & Smg Co. 5,000 \$ 100 all

THE CHINA MAIL

No. 6919. SEPTEMBER 30, 1885.]

liberality. My last appeal has not yielded 210 yet. Ten pounds from the people of Great Britain! What a magnificent response to an appeal for charity on behalf of 5,000 starving people!

The *Overland Mail* received to-day says that Mr. Archibald R. Colquhoun, the distinguished traveller, whose letters from the Far East have done so much to educate the public concerning the important problems now in course of evolution in China, and in Indo-China especially, and who has just returned to England, has been requested by the London Chamber of Commerce to give an address on the question of the development of the means of communication between China and India. Mr. Colquhoun will, it is stated, shortly visit Manchester, and deliver addresses on the best means of promoting intercommunication between the two most populous countries of the world. We believe the Home Chamber of Commerce intend to call the attention of the Government to the valuable services rendered by Messrs. Colquhoun and Hallett, in Indo-China exploration, and are likely also to support the Burma-Siam China railway project. We believe, also, that the local Chamber of Commerce has been communicated with on the subject, and we have no doubt the scheme will receive its hearty support.

A GENERAL order has been issued from the Horse Guards directing the changes of stations and movements of troops, viz.—1st battalion of the Buffs (East Kent) Regiment, from Malta to the Straits Settlement; 1st battalion of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, from the Straits Settlement to Natal, three companies being detached to the Mauritius, there to relieve three companies of the 1st battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, proceeding to Natal; 1st battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, from Natal to Ceylon; 1st battalion of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, from Ceylon to England; 2nd battalion of the Northamptonshire Regiment, from the Cape to Hong Kong; and 2nd battalion of the East Kent Regiment, from Hong Kong home. The transport service in connection with these changes will be carried out by the transport ship *Himalaya*. The vessel will embark direct at Portsmouth on Sept. 1, calling at Devonport on the following day, and will then proceed in succession to Malta, Singapore, Mauritius, Natal, and Ceylon. Lieut.-Colonel H. S. Olive will embark on the 23rd prox. for Ceylon, at which station he will assume the duties of commanding Royal Engineers.

"An Officer's Father" writes as follows to the *Morning Post*:—The 1st Battalion of the Buffs—by the new-fangled nomenclature, the East Kent Regiment—is about to be sent to Hongkong to replace the 2nd Battalion, ordered home, and I submit that this is most unfair and cruel to the regiment. The second Battalion has already been nearly four years in Hongkong, two years being the usual time, on account of the great unhealthiness of the station, and now the other battalion is to go there, which means that officers who, on promotion, have been transferred (not exchanged) from one battalion to the other will find themselves again relegated to this wretched place after a respite of a few months, it may be of a few weeks. Surely this is not the way to make the service popular, and I should think it more than probable that there will be a wholesale settling from the regiment in order to escape a second period of existence in such a desolate (I) climate. May I suggest the advisability of changing the territorial title of the Buffs from the "East Kent" to the "Hongkong Regiment." We may add that the change ordered must be particularly disappointing to those officers who are believed to have paid considerable sums, in order to get transferred from the 2nd Battalion to the 1st Battalion.]

As the *Gloucestershire* was preparing to go alongside the Old Ningpo Wharf at Shanghai on the 25th inst., she got astern with the current, and collided with the *Devonport*, doing some slight damage to herself. —N. O. D. News.

Prior J. H. Hallinan was brought up on the 26th instant at the U. S. Consular Court, Shanghai, before Mr. G. H. Scidmore, U. S. Vice-Consul General, charged with committing an assault upon a native constable in Hongkong road. Accused was found guilty and sentenced to thirty days in jail.

The firm of Messrs. William Milburn & Co. has now on this coast quite a number of steamers, three having recently been added to the existing service. The vessels sailing out of Shanghai are the *Peking*, *Ningpo*, *Yanghai*, *Singapore*, *Macao*, and *Giulang*. The last three have, or are to be, fitted up to make them suitable for the purpose for which they came out here. The *Patrician* belonging to the same Company is also at Shanghai. —N. G. D. News.

Correspondence from the Isthmus of Panama shows that a crisis is approaching in the affairs of the Panama Canal Company. The success of the lottery venture in Paris is awaited with much anxiety by the small army of bureau officials now drawing high salaries for doing nothing in the company's special offices in Panama. Of course work in digging the great ditch very little has been done lately, at all the entrenched banks have been carried out in the field, when on expense should have been granted to push on the work, while the big English officials suffered no reduction of salary. How not to do it? —"I seldom see but better proof than the practical workings of the Panama Canal Company."

The U. S. S. *Alex*, Commander Barkeley, put in to Woosung on the 25th instant. On her way from Nagasaki to Chofu, having encountered head wind and all her coal being expended, Commander Barkeley squared away to Wusung. The *Courier* believes that Admiral Davis has been wired, but it is not yet known whether the *Alex* is to stay in Shanghai or leave for Chofu after having taken coal.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HONGKONG GOVERNMENT FIRE BRIGADE.

To the Editor of "THE CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, Sept. 30.

Sir.—The accounts which have been published in the local journals of the fire which occurred in Queen's Row West on Monday evening have naturally led to a great deal of public argument as to the efficiency of the Hongkong Fire Brigade, the general opinion appearing to be that its utter incompetence to cope with a really serious conflagration was conclusively proved on Monday night.

As an old fireman myself, I would like to make a few remarks upon the operations of the Fire Brigades on Monday evening, and their general constitution. I was present at the fire from a short time after its start until it was extinguished and therefore speak from personal observation. No water was played upon the fire until twenty-five minutes upon the fire had been raised, the alarm had been sounded, although the site of the conflagration was only about seven minutes walk from the Central Fire Brigade Station, and when the first engine took up a position in Taloo Gimpoo with a deputation of his principal officers has gone to Lassoo in Thibet to seek assistance.

MYSTERY.

Bangkok, Aug. 30.—Capt. Wilkison, R.E., who was wounded when fighting with the detachment of Sappers and Miners from Bangalore at McNeill's zareba, has been promoted major, for special services in the Soudan.

A movement has been set on foot by the natives of Mysoor to raise funds to establish granaries and organize valid measures throughout the province with a view to the threatened famine. The feeling is that it is not safe to depend entirely on Government, their were no men of the Brigade to run up the hose track and direct the nozzle, and there was no fresh water for the engine.

There are three steam fire-engines stationed at the Central Fire Station in Queen's Row and there were three engines only to conduct these engines to the fire and work them. When the various engines arrived, one after the other, no recognised chief was present to direct their operations and the engines were put into position, one after another, in a manner that all the water provided was played upon one side of the fire, and that the windward side. The hoses were laid down by Chinamen, without supervision, and the consequence was that they became so mixed and intertwined that at the height of the fire three engines had to be stopped owing to a broken length of hose from one of the engines which could not be traced in the general kink of hoses.

Bursted hose and damaged engines appeared to be the order of the day amongst the Government Brigades. The Insurance Engines, worked by volunteers, did good service, being a proper trim and worked intelligently, and by a sufficient staff of Europeans.

In the working of the Government engines it was evident that there was an utter insufficiency of trained men. Those that were present were willing and ready, but with some exceptions did not appear to have the faintest idea of what to do, and as there was no leader their efforts were to a great extent wasted.

The only conclusion that anyone who had had any experience in a Fire Brigade could come to after being present at Monday night's performance is that the Government Brigades is a mere a delusion and a mockery. There are not enough men in the force, (all 22 all told) to work the engines properly, and of these only a few know their business. There is no engineer employed by the Government to keep the engines in order, and as they have to be sent to some private engineering yard for repairs when necessary defects are looked over until they become serious at some critical moment.

The Volunteer Brigade is much better organised. It has twenty-five volunteer members who are trained, each to his own post, and a competent engineer to look after the one engine. The whole number of the members are, of course, seldom all out together, but enough are always ready to turn out to work the engine efficiently and intelligently. In the Government Brigade, as at present constituted, there are only twenty-two Europeans, which means that officers who, on promotion, have been transferred (not exchanged) from one battalion to the other will find themselves again relegated to this wretched place after a respite of a few months, it may be of a few weeks. Surely this is not the way to make the service popular, and I should think it more than probable that there will be a wholesale settling from the regiment in order to escape a second period of existence in such a desolate (I) climate. May I suggest the advisability of changing the territorial title of the Buffs from the "East Kent" to the "Hongkong Regiment." We may add that the change ordered must be particularly disappointing to those officers who are believed to have paid considerable sums, in order to get transferred from the 2nd Battalion to the 1st Battalion.]

AN OLD FIREMAN.

Police Intelligence.

(Before E. Macmillan, Esq.)

Wednesday, Sept. 30.

THE CENTRAL MARKET CASE.

Bombay, P.C. 506, the Indian Constable who was complainant in the case against Ip Sat, and three other fishmongers for creating a disturbance in the Central Market on the 26th inst., now appeared a defendant on the 26th inst.

Mr. Caldwell appeared for the complainant, Ip Sat.

The evidence called was a repetition of that given on the 26th instant, and was to the effect that after arresting Ip Sat, the constable struck him in the eye with his fist. The case was remanded till 2.30 p.m. to-morrow.

(Before H. E. Wodehouse, Esq.)

THE LARCENY FROM THE GOVERNMENT STORE AT TAI TAK TAU.

Chong Aow and Su Yu Sz, appeared un-charged, the first defendant un-suspected Judge of the Chief Court at Laih, superseding all previous acting appointments.

ON THE IMPORTATION OF KEROSINE OIL.

Bombay, Sept. 16th.—Pandit Narain has decided to levy a tax of four annas per case on kerosine oil.

CHITTAJAL.

Bombay, Sept. 16th.—Mrs. Stevenson, the Countess of Dufferin's sister.

THE CHINIAN JUDGE OF THE LABOUR COURT.

Bombay, Sept. 16th.—Pandit Narain has been appointed Judge of the Chief Court at Laih, superseding all previous acting appointments.

THE ANGLO-CHINIAN FRONTIER.

London, Sept. 12.—It is positively stated that M. Lescar starts immediately for S. Petersburg, and that the Commission for the delimitation of the Afghan frontier will meet during November.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN PROTOCOL.

London, Sept. 14.—The Anglo-Russian Protocol has been signed.

The London *Standard* announces that the Protocol determines all the principal features of the frontier, and that the Delimitation Commission will only have to consider local

NEWS BY THE FRENCH MAIL

THE FRENCH IN MADAGASCAR.

London, Sept. 14.—The French are re-

suming offensive operations in Madagascar;

SIR H. D. POLK'S MISSION.

Constantinople, Sept. 14.—Sir H. Drum-

mond Wolf and the Turkish delegates have

held four conferences, but the discussions

were confined to generalities, and no defi-

nite proposal has yet been made by either

sides.

TURKEY AND EGYPT.

Cairo, Sept. 14.—A report is current

here that the Sultan is sending the Grand

Vizier to Egypt.

(LONDON AND C. E. C. EXPRESS.)

Hamburg, Aug. 25.—The trade on the fort

river has been fairly active during the fort

night, although shipping has been much

impeded by gales of wind, which have been

raging in the North Sea, from whence

wracks are reported almost every day.

The arrivals from the Far East have been

held up by the strong winds.

THE CHINIAN DISTURBANCES.

Sima, Aug. 28.—News has been received

from Bhutan that the Tongsa Penlop is

now virtually master of the whole country.

The late Deb Raja has taken refuge in

Talo Gimpoo with a deputation of his prin-

cipal officers.

THE CHINIAN DISTURBANCES.

Sima, Aug. 28.—The Afghani Boundary

Commission is at Saugus. All is quiet on

the frontier.

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THE CHINIAN FRONTIER.

For Sale.

To Let.

Mails.

Merchant Vessels in Hongkong Harbour.

Exclusively of late Arrivals and Departures reported to-day.

SHIPPING IN CHINA, JAPAN,
PHILIPPINES, AND SIAM
WATERS.

Port's Name.	Brit. & Co.	Archos	Brit. bgo.
Campton	Brit. str.	Siamp	Siamp.
Eng Lee	Siamp. bgo.	Gulf of Suez	Brit. str.
Lido	Brit. str.	Ningpo	Brit. str.
Yungching	Chi. str.	Yungching	Shanghai

CANTON.	Chi. str.
Fung-shan	Hongkong

Mary Austin	Brit. str.
Milton	Hongkong

Kiang-ping	Canton
SWATOW.	In port on September 17, 1885.

MERCHANT STEAMERS.	Amatista
Clara	British

Vortigern	British
AMOY.	In port on September 23, 1885.

MERCHANT STEAMERS.	Jason
Cuthona	Brit. str.

Daniel	Brit. str.
Haikoo	Brit. str.

Hochuan	Brit. str.
Hoang Ho	Brit. str.

Loong Wha	Brit. str.
Louise	Brit. str.

Mary Stewart	Brit. str.
Omega	Brit. str.

FOOCHOW.	In port on September 19, 1885.
MERCHANT STEAMERS.	MECHANICAL VESSELS.

Nanning	British
Woosang	British

MECHANICAL VESSELS.	Clare Babyon
G. H. Waipau	British

Hedwig	British
Hugo & Otto	Norw. bgo.

Amity	British
Leander	British

SHANGHAI.	In port on September 25, 1885.
MERCHANT STEAMERS.	MERCHANT STEAMERS.

Autiva	German
Altengower	British

Amigo	German
Antor	British

Asadyr	French
Asita	French

Bellona	French
Bencadale	French

Caron	French
Crescent	French

Dion	French
Douglas	French

Euphrates	French
Fame	French

Gracile	French
Gratitudo	French

Hannibal	French
Ingraham	French

Janus	French
Kilarnay	French

Moore	French
Marques	French

Merita	French
Wentby	French

Naihao	French
Olympia	French

Orixis	French
Querita	French

Pasig	French
Phu Chom Kla	French

Pilot Fish	French
Serpent	French

Sidh	French
Strathairly	French

Tanaga	French
Westmeath	French

Will o' the Wisp	French
Zafiro	French

SAVING VESSELS.	Clare Babyon
G. H. Waipau	British

Hedwig	British
Hugo & Otto	Norw. bgo.

Hugh & Co.	British

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